

Master of Arts in Musicology - Minor in Christian Music History

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 69 (including 15 credit hours for minor)



Program Description

The Master of Fine Arts in Music Production at HBI University is designed to equip students with advanced skills in recording, mixing, mastering, and digital music production. The program integrates sound engineering, production techniques, and creative artistry to prepare students for professional careers in music production, film scoring, and sound design.

The Minor in Faith-Based Music Production allows students to explore sacred and worship music production, contemporary Christian music, and audio engineering for faith-based settings. This minor provides students with an in-depth understanding of producing, arranging, and recording religious music, ensuring their technical skills align with worship and ministry needs.

This 69-credit hour program includes 30 credit hours of foundational music production courses, 24 credit hours of core studio and production courses, 15 credit hours in Faith-Based Music Production, elective coursework, a supervised practicum, and a research-based master's thesis.

Admissions Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in music, choral conducting, or a related field
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Audition and portfolio submission (video conducting samples required)
- Two letters of recommendation from music faculty or professional conductors
- Statement of purpose outlining career goals in conducting and choral ministry
- Interview with faculty committee

Practicum Requirement

Students must complete a 300-hour supervised practicum in music studios, live sound production, or worship music recording. This hands-on experience allows students to refine their technical abilities in professional settings.

Master's Thesis

Students are required to complete a research-based master's thesis or a capstone music production project exploring an aspect of sound design, faith-based music, or contemporary production techniques. The thesis should include a written analysis and a practical component such as a fully produced and engineered album or live recording.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced recording, mixing, and mastering techniques.
- Integrate faith-based themes into music production.
- Utilize digital audio workstations (DAWs) and studio hardware professionally.
- Lead worship music production and sound engineering in religious settings.
- Prepare for careers in studio production, worship music, and media broadcasting.

Career Outcomes & Potential Salary

- Music Producer – \$50,000 - \$110,000
- Recording Engineer – \$45,000 - \$95,000
- Live Sound Engineer (Church & Worship Settings) – \$50,000 - \$85,000
- Faith-Based Music Director – \$45,000 - \$90,000
- Film & Media Sound Designer – \$55,000 - \$120,000

Advocacy and Professional Development

Students are encouraged to join music production organizations such as:

- Audio Engineering Society (AES)
- Worship Music Association
- National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)
- Christian Music Producers Network

Participation in music production workshops, worship music conferences, and professional recording sessions is highly recommended.

Course Breakdown (Total: 69 Credit Hours)

A. Foundational Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
MUS-621	Introduction to Music Production	3

MUS-622	Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs)	3
MUS-623	Music Theory for Producers	3
MUS-624	MIDI and Electronic Music Composition	3
MUS-625	Sound Design and Synthesis	3
MUS-626	Microphones & Recording Techniques	3
MUS-627	Mixing & Mastering Fundamentals	3
MUS-628	Film and Media Scoring	3
MUS-629	Studio Production & Engineering	3
MUS-630	Research Methods in Music Technology	3

B. Core Studio & Production Courses (24 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
PROD-701	Advanced Studio Recording	3
PROD-702	Live Sound Engineering	3
PROD-703	Audio for Broadcast & Worship Services	3
PROD-704	Mixing and Mastering Techniques	3
PROD-705	Foley & Sound Effects in Media	3
PROD-706	Audio Post-Production & Editing	3
PROD-707	Music Business & Copyright Law	3
PROD-708	Supervised Production Practicum	3

C. Faith-Based Music Production Minor (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FMP-901	Worship Music Production Techniques	3
FMP-902	Contemporary Christian Music Arranging	3
FMP-903	Audio Engineering for Churches	3
FMP-904	Producing Live Worship Albums	3
FMP-905	Faith-Based Music Entrepreneurship	3

D. Electives (9 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ELEC-821	Film Sound & Audio Production	3
ELEC-822	Advanced MIDI & Electronic Music	3
ELEC-823	Songwriting for Worship	3